

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

July 19, 2017

Mr. Timothy O. Horne
Acting Administrator
General Services Administration
1800 F Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20405

Dear Acting Administrator Horne:

I am following up on my letter dated July 12, 2017, regarding the announcement of the preferred site for the new Des Moines federal courthouse.

Per my letter, I am reaching out to you with questions regarding the proposed site. Given the importance and potential impact of this undertaking, it is important that the city, the public, and the General Services Administration (GSA) fully understand all the issues at hand. Therefore, please respond to the following questions by July 27, 2017.

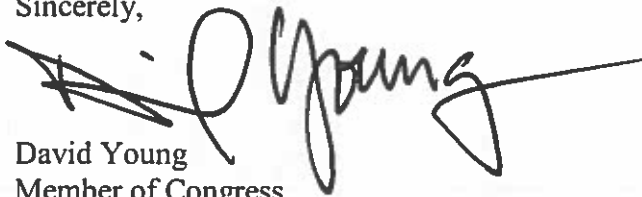
1. Why wasn't current data used when evaluating floodplains in the draft Environmental Assessment (EA) or site selection?
2. How will underground parking be configured around the Birds Run sewer that bisects the site?
3. What is the schedule for relocating the Birds Run sewer? How will this be accomplished to accommodate the planned start of the Federal Courthouse construction in March 2019? And what disruptions, if any, do you foresee for the community because of this relocation?
4. Is the cost for relocating the Birds Run sewer included in the estimated cost?
5. How will construction be contained to the site?
6. What is the anticipated added cost for construction under the site constraints?
7. Can you please explain GSA's position regarding Guideline #4 in the EA and the YMCA site's "positive influence on local development" versus the three alternative sites?

8. The public parking identified by the YMCA is currently occupied at full capacity. How do you intend to address the parking need when identified parking is already occupied?
9. Guideline #2 seeks a site with development flexibility. How is the flexibility achieved when a site is half the size of the one that was originally sought?

It is my understanding the public comment hearing hosted by the GSA in Des Moines yesterday evening provided a productive conversation. I urge you to take into consideration all comments offered by the community because you have an obligation to the people of Des Moines to be good neighbors. Being a good neighbor means you are willing to listen and strongly consider input from the local community and its citizens and also address their concerns through a transparent and thoughtful process.

Thank you for your prompt attention to the matter, and I look forward to your reply very soon.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Young", with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

David Young
Member of Congress